

# Wasatch County and Utah Rate High With Film & TV Industry

30 Oct 1974

Three local men playing the part of irate farmers participated in the filming of the television series, "Movin' On" Saturday on the River Road near Midway.

Duane Price, Dennis Olson and Jerry Chatwin all residents of the county, were required to carry and shoot guns in a 'road block' sequence of the NBC show, which appears every Thursday evening on Channel 2.

The television crew have been filming in Wasatch County for the past two weeks one of several movie and television groups to take advantage of Utah

scenery. Several other films are currently or will soon be filmed in Utah, according to Hal Schlueter, Utah Movie-T.V. Coordinator.

Mr. Schlueter noted that he has been travelling constantly in coordinating and locating suitable filming sites for many film companies. A movie starring Clint Eastwood began shooting in St. George on September 26th. Produced by Malpaso Productions and Universal Pictures titled, "Elgor Saction," the mountain climbing movie will be filmed in Zions

Park.

Another film to be done in St. George on October 9th is a documentary entitled, "Jedediah Smith." It is one of a series of 10 which the British Broadcasting Corporation are filming all over the world.

A comedy with Elliot Gould, Eddie Albert and Jennifer O'Neill was recently filmed in the Tooele area, he commented. The movie is titled, "White."

Another television series is also being filmed in Kanab, Utah. That series stars the popular Lee Majors.

Headquarters in Midway

*Romero came in today - Sun & Surf Travel*

## Comworld Productions move

*Wave 2-18-82*

Comworld Group, a Utah/California Entertainment conglomerate, recently announced plans to form a subsidiary company, Comworld Pictures. According to Reed R. Callister, Chief Executive Officer of Comworld Group, the new company will produce and distribute theatrical motion pictures as well as selected television films.

Corporate headquarters for Comworld Pictures will be located in Midway.

Callister says that in order to insure success of the multi-million investment in Comworld Pictures, the corporation studied marketplace conditions over many months. Several executives with strong track records in the fields of production as well as distribution were located. Comworld Group investors have set aside funds to enable the new company to proceed with its master plan and according to Callister, the group feels, "the strength of executives involved will insure Comworld

Pictures' future success. We're looking forward to our entry into the motion picture business with the same level of enthusiasm we felt upon entering the television business."

Success is not new to the Comworld Group. Their four divisions include: Comworld International, a television distribution company; Comworld Productions, which produces programming for network, cable, and syndication; Comworld Films specializing in national television commercials; First Choice, a barter company dealing in radio and television time; and Comworld Video Services for tape duplication.

Allan Sloan, former President of Osmond Television; Phil Berry ("Friendly Fire") with over 15 Emmy's to his credit; Deanne Barkley, the first female network vice president; and Gloria Monty, Producer of General Hospital are a few of the industry executives currently on exclusive contract with Comworld Group

subsidiaries. The executives to be associated with the new Comworld Pictures company will be announced shortly.

Product associated with the Comworld Group includes: The Big City Comedy Show, County Roads, Shields and Yarnell Special, Tammy Wynette Special, The Donny and Marie Show, The Roy Clark Special, Mel and Susan Together, The Donna Fargo Show, Mel Tillis in Las Vegas, Kent State, Valentine Magic, The Ordeal of Bill Carney, The Junior Miss America Contest, The Blue Jean Network, The Steeler and the Pittsburgh Kid, Romance Theatre, Peter Marshall, The Big Bands and the forthcoming NBC Series, Family Tree.

Callister went on to say that "our entry into the theatrical film business with Comworld Pictures, will enable us to extend our interests into new areas which have not been available to us in the past. We have committed major funds to this effort, and are looking forward to its success."

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# Jackie Coogan to Make Film From Well Known Story

That James Marcus' "Toby Tyler" or "Ten Weeks With a Circus" is to be Jackie Coogan's next big production is confirmed by Jack Coogan, Jr., who withdrew his own story, written expressly for little Jackie, in favor of this pictured version of a highly popular novel. The reason for the switch is that "Toby Tyler" afforded a timely contrast to the current first National release, "Oliver Twist," and each of these pictures would serve to reinforce the other by reason of their widely varied quality of appeal.

Toby Tyler is a little motherless youngster who thinks he wants to run away and join a circus. He does, and his adventures provide the material out of which Murray has fashioned a fascinatingly funny story and out of which a picture is produced that will appeal with irresistible force to all that enjoy hearty laughter. It is to be an essentially funny picture and without tragic import, states Sol Lesser, who presents the juvenile genius in this promisingly novel production.

Eddie Cline is now in Hollywood engaged to direct the production of "Toby Tyler"—another assurance that it will be a riot of humor. Mr. Cline has been responsible for all of Eustace Keaton's biggest laugh successes.

## Stage Success is Riot on Screen

(Special Correspondence.)  
LOS ANGELES, Calif., Nov. 17.—After trying out his new comedy drama special, "The Hollenback," in three entirely different types of motion picture houses and killing every house with laughter ranging from the gentlest snicker to the heartiest roar, Thomas H. Ince is satisfied that his film version of Willie Collier's greatest stage success is about ready for publication.

Previews of the picture held in the various houses have been uniformly successful in attracting record crowds by the bare announcement of the showing of a picture version of this popular play. With Douglas Holman in Collier's role of the horse-fearing "Sam Harrington," and Madge Bellamy recently starred in Maurice Tourneur's "Lorne Doone," as the lovely "Peggy Fairfax," Ince's first big comedy special promises to break all laugh records. It will be released shortly.

# CHARLES DAVID AND ALICE JANE WAGSTAFF THACKER



Charles David Thacker was born on November 28, 1883, at Buysville, Utah, son of Charles E. and Maria Price Thacker. He married Alice Jane Wagstaff on February 22, 1906. She was the daughter of Heber Jonathan and Sarah M. Shelley Wagstaff and was born December 31, 1884, at American Fork.

As soon as Dave could straddle a horse he had one, which he used to bring the cows home from the hills. Horses and oxen were Dave's pet hobby, always enjoying working with them to break them in.

When five years old, he ran away to school so often the teacher let him come and join the other students who ranged in

age from five to 20 years. In some rural one-room schools, students up to 20 years attended, but not too many. He remembered one experience with a skunk that caused the teacher to send him home for a change of clothes. He rode to Charleston to school when he was in the seventh grade. His schooling ended for three years when his father moved to Wyoming. Three or four years later they sent him back to go on in school. He was 19.

Everyone walked, sometimes miles, to parties, entertainments, Mutual and Church in those days. In Wyoming the young fellows rode horses to take girls to the dances. There were many non-Mormons in Wyoming who were prejudiced against the Mormons, causing trouble around Ft. Bridger and Lyman.

When Dave was 20, in February, 1903, his father took a contract (on another man's word) to supply ties to a new rail line over a mountain. They had to be cut by ax, hewed and delivered on railroad grade. A group of 14 or 16 left Wasatch with their teams to skid and haul the ties. They got to Bridal Veil Falls at noon and found a huge snowslide. They camped for dinner, then doubled teams and got wagons over. They arrived at the camping place at the depot by evening. In the morning all were loaded on the train and shipped to Mack, Colorado. Arriving there, the horses were unloaded and put in a field to feed. Dave's best horse had his leg broken when he was kicked, so it had to be shot.

They started for their working place, but had alkali water to contend with. However, a surveying party supplied them with good water. After two days they reached the company commissary and drew the supplies needed, then were off to the mountains. The place was badly represented. The timber was red pine, scattered up the ledges where horses couldn't get, and with hard trees to cut and handle. All were experienced timber workers, but decided they could make nothing there, so piled what they had drawn from the commissary, covered it with a tarp and struck out through the country for Vernal. All they had to eat on the three-day trek to Green River was flour and water stirred together and baked in a fry pan with a little bacon. At Green River they were offered a ride across on ferry

boats, because Bill Smith and Jake Stills knew the ferry men and told of their plight. It cost \$1 per team and 25 cents per man to cross otherwise. At Jensen they stopped at Joe Smith's. They tried to find work, but weren't successful, so some started home by way of Indian Canyon to Price. Strawberry was snowed in.

Dave found work at the St. Louis Gilsonite mine, two miles east of Ft. Duchesne, then to the Pariette mine, south of Myton. It was a wet mine and Dave became sick. Left there, and at White Rocks went to work for the man he worked for the year before. His wife was half-breed, so he could get contracts from the Indian department. Dave cut cord wood from yellow pine, knotty, gummy stuff, and then hauled to Ft. Duchesne, 20 miles away, with four horses. His father worked at the Pariette mine and then found work hauling water from Myton to the mine.

When they left for home they fixed up a six-horse outfit with two wagons and picked up a load of wool at Starvation to haul to Provo to the woolen mills. Heber sheepmen had wool at Starvation and Currant Creek. Received meager supplies at Ft. Duchesne, which had to last until they reached Heber. There were no towns in between.

Dave was 22 and Alice 21 when they were married. He fell in love with Alice when she was a little girl. He saw her the first time in Sunday School. He depended on working with his three yoke of oxen he had broken for all kinds of farm work and to make a living with, and worked with his father in sawmill work.

After he was married he worked in different organizations in the Church, as Sunday School teacher, in superintendency, as counselor in Sunday School, as president of YMMIA, and president of Elders' Quorum. Dave was active in dramatics for 20 years, and was an exceptionally fine actor even after he became deaf. He was head of the amusement board for a time, played baseball and loved to dance. He and Alice are fine waltzers, taking prizes on three different occasions.

Dave and his father bought a sawmill from Robert Turner, Robert Forman and Ed Clyde—the old John Turner mill in Daniels Canyon, above McGuire Canyon. They

logged all winter in deep snow and came in every night wet to the waist and with their clothes frozen stiff on them. They moved the mill from here to Strawberry Valley, east of the Hub Ranger Station, where Dave and Alice spent their first summer together; then to Sugar Spring. A fellow from Green River came and wanted two timbers, 40 feet long and 18 inches square. Dave made a road up Dry Hollow, found a tree that would make these timbers, and he tells how he got it out for the man with his oxen. The timbers were for the sides of a ferry. They moved to Clyde Creek.

Then Dave was appointed an RFD mail carrier on a 20-mile route, which he traveled with horses the year round. He used a horse and cart, sometimes a horse and buggy, or a sleigh. Sometimes the snow was so deep he would use a pack horse to break the trail. He broke a number of horses for other people on this job, which he held for eight years.

His father bought another mill and two yoke of oxen from Senator Gardner of Spanish Fork and won a contract to furnish the timbers from the East Portal to the West Portal of the Strawberry tunnel. Alf Shelton drove for them.

That fall a moving picture company came from Hollywood to make a picture called "A Hundred Years of Mormonism." They used, as a stage, the part of Wasatch from Charleston, along the hills and over across Daniel, stopping for fiddling and dancing where Clifford and Delores McDonald's farm is. They used all of Thacker's oxen, a number of horse teams and 20 to 30 single hands, men and women, for about 10 days. Everyone enjoyed it so much. Saw the picture later, and their part was very good. About 1919 they lived at Bluebell on the reservation three years.

In 1902, Dave worked with the Indians at White Rock. He learned to understand them and speak some words, which he enjoyed doing.

Dave continued his sawmill work and farmed. He had a farm in Vineyard which the Geneva Steel Co. purchased. He was in the dairy business at Wallsburg and ran range cattle. He sold that and bought a ranch on lower Lake Creek. They make their home in Heber.

Alice has always been an ardent Church

over

worker and a very wonderful mother. She is very proficient with all kinds of beautiful handwork. She helps a great deal in the American Legion and in the Daughters of the Utah Pioneers.

Their children are: LaPrele, Ida A., Lela Marie, Lois Thacker, Charles Heber, Van Ness, Luella, Mac, Floyd Verl, Carma Ann, Lowell David and Lyle Vern.

P.C. Rec 11/11/71

## Buffalo Herd in Filming at Woodland

The Diamond Bar X Ranch was the scene Sunday for the Sanford Productions to film part of the movie they are filming in this area.

There was a herd of buffalo in the corral all last week, and Sunday they filmed a scene in which a large bull buffalo was killed and dressed out. It was quite interesting to see how things are done on the movie set.

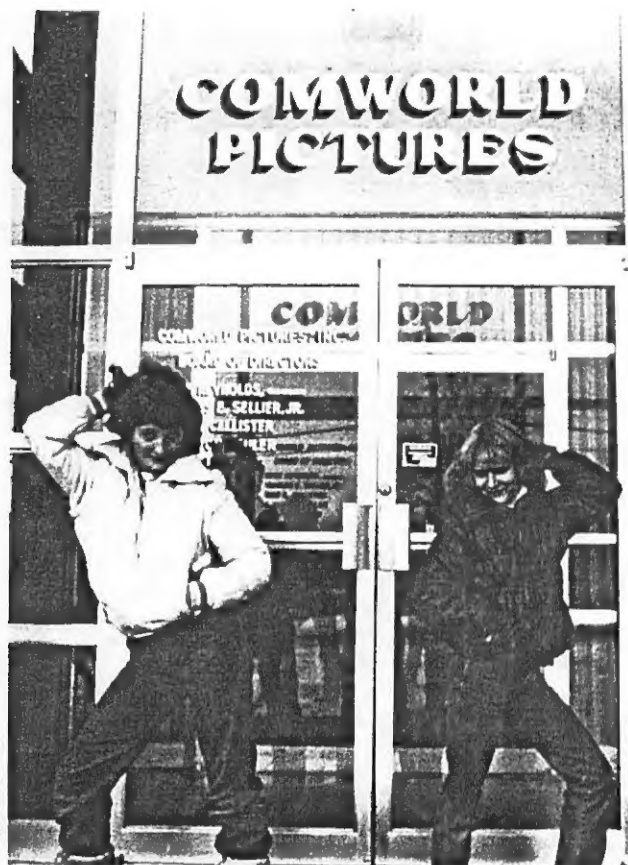
The movie that is being filmed, in part, in the Provo Canyon and up Beaver Creek will be called "The Saga of Jeremiah Johnson" starring Robert Redford.

It should be interesting to residents of the Kamas area to see some of their beautiful scenery in this movie.



# "Our Town"

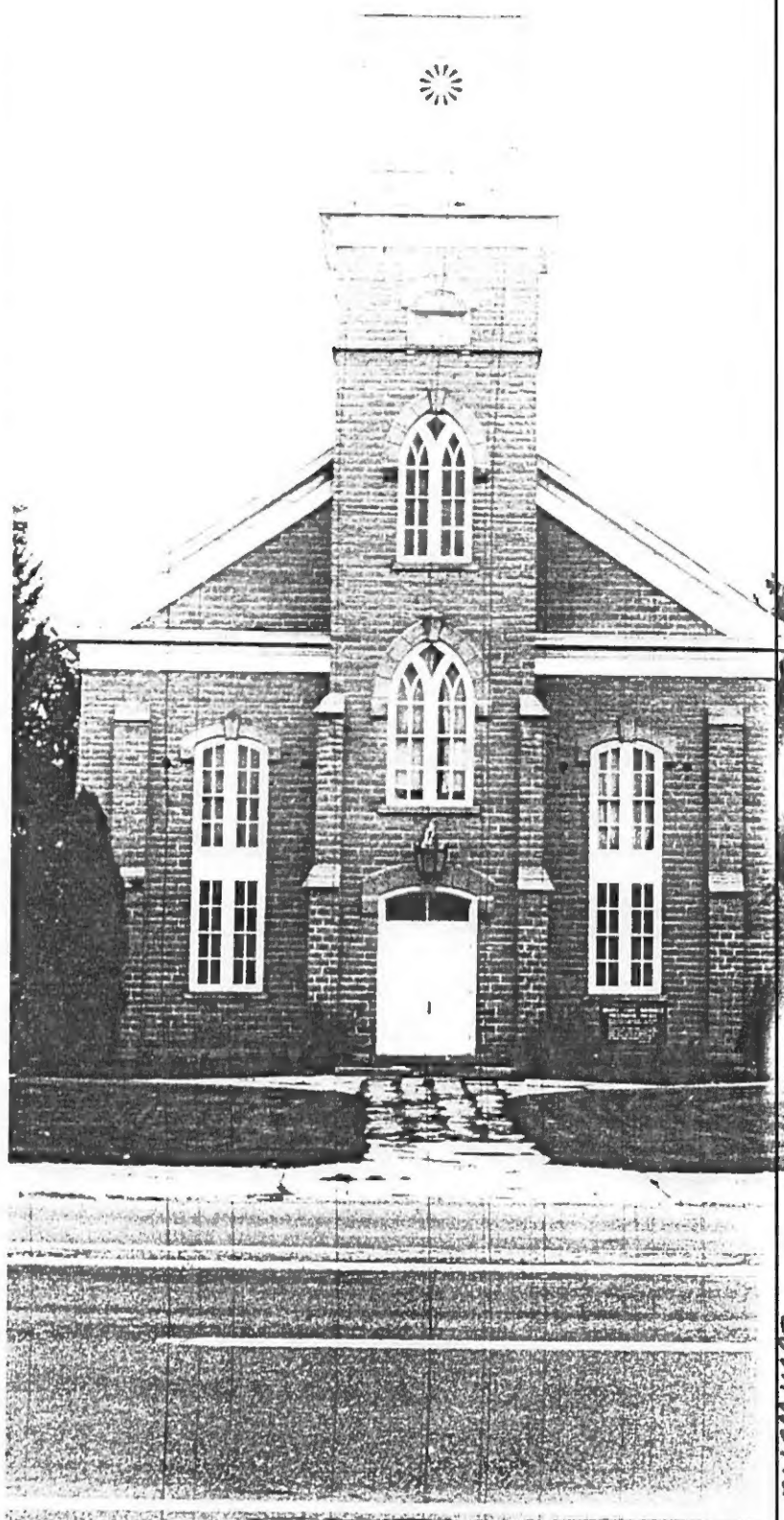
Over the years, our community has changed a great deal. Some say it's for the better and others have the opinion of this change not being good. With the increasing population and the building of new businesses — such as the cable T.V. company, many feel that expansion and change may be affecting some of the ideals of the residents of our county. Some are having trouble adjusting to the growth and changing lifestyle of their home town. Whether it is good or bad, there have been an increasing number of additions to our community, like the expansion of the train station, and the building of new elementary schools, of new churches, and of subdivisions where once only fields existed. Heber presently has it's own radio station and a movie production company has headquarters in Midway. Do the community members feel like they are losing their close-knit, small-town attitude, or will they get used to the idea of being caught up in the progressing world? We'll just have to wait and see what kind of effect all of this has on the people and their way of life . . . only time can tell.



Brian Jenkins

David Eldredge

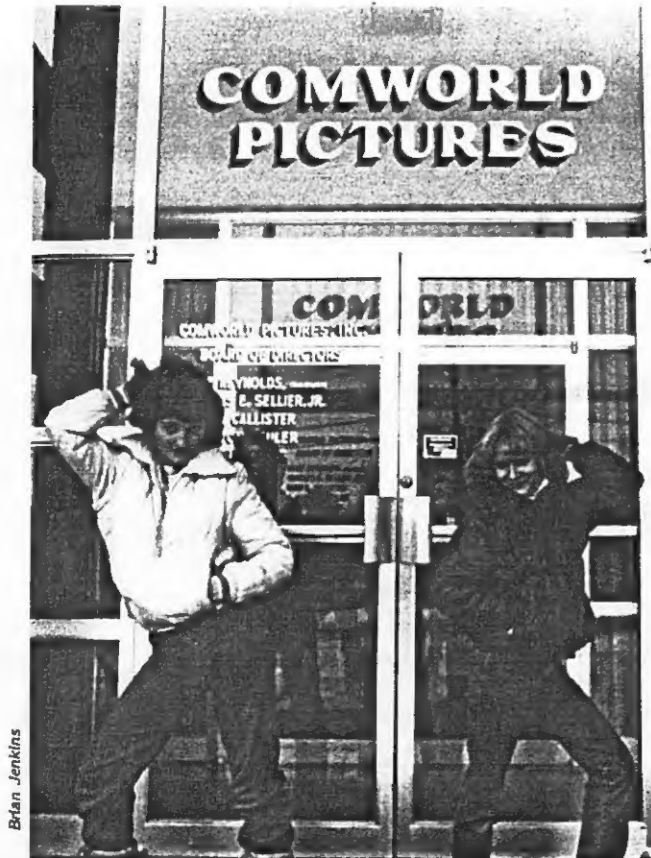
Burt Reynolds and Comworld Pictures purchased the old Midway 1st ward chapel as their headquarters. Melanie Jenkins and Kim Johnson are future stars?  
18 Community



Bats by the thousands occupy the Old Tabernacle on mainstreet, but its 1887 completion date makes it a cultural tie with our past.

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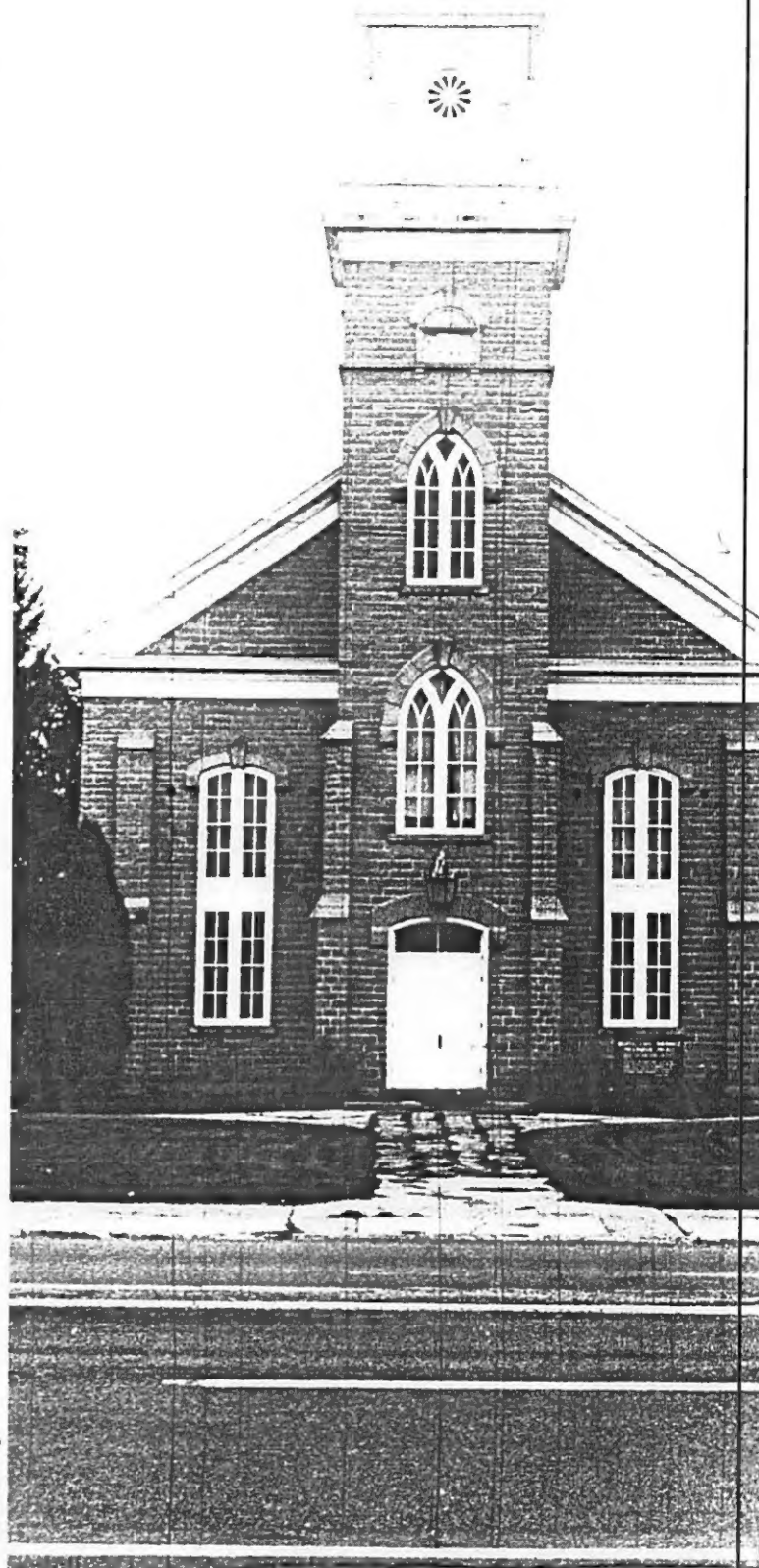
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# Avon Announces Bargain on Show Tickets

The Avon Theatre in Heber City is offering "Indiana Jones and the Temple of Doom" for 99 cents, all seats from 7/29 thru 7/26. "It's our way of showing appreciation for our customer's patronage," said Steve Zimmerman, theatre owner. Where "Indiana" is now costing theatregoers \$4.50 to \$5.00 per ticket, 99 cents a seat is a real bargain. "Indiana" shows twice nightly at 7:15 and 9:20.

# Two Students

